The Shanghai Evening Post and Mercury

September 16, 1947.

STATEMENT

My acquaintance with Mamoru Shigemitsu begain in Peking during my residence there from 1924 to 1927; I would guess that we met around 1926. He was at that time First Secretary of Legation and occasionally he conducted press conferences, but he was not particularly intimate with the foreign correspondents because others at the Legation spoke English in a more facile way. My attention was drawn to him when someone at the Soviet Embassy montioned him as considered by the Russians to be a coming man. Thereafter I paid more attention to him, found myself attracted by his broadly civilized attitudo, and we became personal friends. Subsequently I knew him in Shanghai as Japan's minister to China, called on him in hospital after his injury by a Korean bemb, and saw him in Tokyo where he entertained me and the late Ray G. Marshall of the United Press immediately before going to Moscow as Japan's ambassador to the USSR.

I have never heard Mr. Shigemitsu enunciate a sentiment on international affairs contrary to democratic principles or deregatory to the severeignty and dignity of China. My recollection is that while he spoke always as a patriotic Japanese, he expressed the view that Japan could advance in the world on her own merits without recourse to force. He was always in his actions and words seeking the path of conciliation in every emergency. He never expressed the slightest belligerence. Hatred was not in him, as was vividly brought out when I talked to him swathed in bandages at the Shanghai hespital; he expressed concern only with the point as to whother he would be able to perform further public service. Later, when I saw him in Tokyo and we discussed Russia, Mr. Shigemitsu manifested a sympathetic attitude toward Russia's place in the world just as he had always done with regard to my own country,

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the United States, and toward China. In my many talks with him he repeatedly expressed his view that every country should be given freedom to seek its own level in fair competition not involving military measures. He advocated particularly that China should be treated as an equal with full severeignty, and should not be forced by Japan.

/S/ Randall Gould, Editor

AMERICAN CONSULATE GENERAL SHANGHAI, CHINA

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORM TO BEFORE ME THIS 17TH DAY OF SEPT., 1947

FEE NO. 15969 Vice Censul of the United States
NO FEE PRESCRIBED of America at Shanghai, China.

The Consulate General assumes no responsibility "for the contents of this document.

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上海大美晚報 主筆

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